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The China Mail.

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No. 13,554

號三十月九年六零百九千一英

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1906.

日五廿月七年午丙

PRICE, \$3.00 Per Month.

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Large Stock on Hand of
AUGUSTINER BRAU
AND THE CELEBRATED
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Per Case of 6 doz. pils. \$18.00.
Per Case of 4 doz. pils. \$18.00.
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Intimations.

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FAR EAST.
THE
ONLY BOOK OF REFERENCE
WHICH GIVES
BIOGRAPHIES
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PROMINENT MEN OF
THE FAR EAST
IS NOW ON SALE
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FORWARDED TO ANY ADDRESS.
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8, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
Hongkong.
Hongkong, July 10, 1906.
HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.
A
**GRAND PROMENADE
CONCERT**
WILL BE HELD ON THE
VOLUNTEER PARADE GROUND,
ON SATURDAY,
15th SEPTEMBER, AT 9.15 P.M.
TICKETS (\$2 and \$1) may be obtained
from VOLUNTEER HEADQUARTERS and from
Messrs KELLY & WALSH, LTD.
Hongkong, September 11, 1906. 1778

ROWLOON CRICKET CLUB.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE ROWLOON CRICKET CLUB
will be held at the Star's Restaurant,
Elgin Road, Kowloon, on THURSDAY,
the 20th inst., at 9 P.M.
H. E. GOLDSMITH,
Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, September 12, 1906. 1778

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Hongkong, September 12, 1906. 1778

CHIEF CASH SALE.

AT COST PRICE.
CLARETS, BRANDIES,
BURGUINDIES, WHISKIES,
BOCKS, LIQUEURS,
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FOR THIS WEEK ONLY.
GREGOR & CO.
Hongkong, September 6, 1906. 1773

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A FIRST-CLASS BILLIARD TABLE.
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Hongkong, September 3, 1906. 11736

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THE ASSOCIATION NIGHT SCHOOL
will OPEN MONDAY EVENING,
17th September.
To all young men who desire to make
good use of their evenings, the following
courses of study, which will be given, will
bear careful consideration.

SPECIAL COURSE IN ENGLISH
(2 hours).
DOCUMENTARY TRANSLATION.
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SHORTHAND (Pitman's).
COMMERCIAL ARITHMETIC.
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For Fees and Regulations, etc., call or
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**CHINESE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN
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THE PROPERTY OF CAPTAIN W.
ARBUTHNOT LESLIE, A.D.C.
ROAN PONY 'LEDDIE', fast and a
good back. Has played Polo. War-
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'Governments House'.
Hongkong, August 21, 1906. 1823

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THE RELIABLE PREVENTATIVE
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JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG CANTON AND
MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., AND THE CHINA
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Hongkong-Canton Line.

s.s. HONAM, 2,363 tons, Captain H. D. Jones.
s.s. POWAN, 2,388 tons, Captain W. A. Valentine.
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s.s. HANKOW, 3,073 tons, Captain C. V. Lloyd.
s.s. KINSHAN, 1,996 tons, Captain J. J. Lousie.
Departures from Hongkong to Canton daily at 8.30 a.m. (Sunday Excepted), 9 p.m.
and 10.30 p.m. (Saturday Excepted).
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(Sunday excepted).
These Steamers, carrying His Majesty's Mails, are the largest and fastest on the
route. The accommodation is drawn to their Superior Saloon and Cabin accommodation.

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s.s. HEUNGSHAN, 1,898 tons, Captain J. E. Morrison, A.M.N.
Departures from Hongkong to Macao on week days at 2 p.m., except when otherwise
notified by Express. Sunday Special Excursions, leaving Hongkong at 9.30 a.m.,
and a Second Departure about 7 p.m.
Note: During the Summer Months the time of leaving fluctuates to suit the tide
at Macao. See Special Summer Time-table.
Departures from Macao to Hongkong on week days at 8 a.m. On Saturdays a second
departure about 7 p.m. On Sundays about 3 p.m. (See Special Expresses).

Canton-Macao Line.

s.s. LUNGSHAN, 219 tons, Captain T. Hamlin.
This steamer leaves Canton for Macao every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at
8 a.m.; and leaves Macao for Canton every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7.30 a.m.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE H.K. & C. AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., THE CHINA NAVI-
GATION COMPANY, LTD., AND THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

Canton-Wuchow Line.

s.s. SAINAM, 592 tons, Captain J. Willer.
s.s. NANNING, 569 tons, Captain G. Borchard.
One of the above Steamers leaves Canton for Wuchow every Monday, Wednesday
and Friday at about 8 a.m., and the other leaves Wuchow for Canton on the same days
at 8.30 a.m. Round trips take about five days. These vessels have Superior Cabin
accommodation and are lighted throughout by electricity.
Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the —

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Hotel Mansions, (First Floor), opposite the Hongkong Hotel,
Or of BUTTERFIELD AND SWIRE.

Agents, **CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.**

R. HOUGHTON.

NAVAL, MILITARY AND CIVIL TAILOR.

10, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

Hongkong, September 12, 1906. 1190

RAILROAD HELP WANTED

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IN the KWANG TUNG SECTION, CHINESE
CIVIL ENGINEERS or ENGINEER-
ING STUDENTS having experience in
railroad preliminary, location and construction.
Must be capable of handling any
kind of railroad instruments on field work.
Address applications giving training,
references, experience and samples of work,
to H. E. CHANG, President of the
Kwang Tung Morelia Administration of the
Yuet Han Railway Company, Limited,
CANTON.
Hongkong, August 16, 1906. 1630

HONGKONG HIGH-LEVEL TRAM-
WAYS COMPANY, LIMITED,
(IN LIQUIDATION)

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.
7.00 a.m. to 7.30 a.m. Every 30 minutes.
7.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS.
8.45 p.m. and 9 p.m., 8.45 p.m. to 11.15
p.m. every half hour.

SUNDAYS.

8.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 30 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
12.00 Noon to 1.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

SATURDAYS.

Extra Cars at 11.30 and 11.45 p.m.
SPECIAL CARS by Arrangement at the
Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS,
Des Voeux Road Central.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
Liquidators.
Hongkong, August 27, 1906. 1961

**SIR ROBERT HART'S
MEMORANDUM.**

A Series of Articles on Sir Robert
Hart's Schemes for the Improve-
ment of China.
Reprinted from the China Mail. To be
had in pamphlet form at this Office, 5,
Wyndham Street.
Price 50 Cents.

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BELL'S ASBESTOS EASTERN AGENCY, LIMITED
(SOLE AGENTS FOR BELL'S ASBESTOS CO., LTD., LONDON).

BELL'S ASBESTOS

THE MOST RELIABLE PACKING FOR MARINE ENGINES.
DAGGER

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. SOLE MANUFACTURERS:
BELL'S ASBESTOS CO., LTD., LONDON.

LARGE STOCK OF PACKINGS, JOINTINGS, &c., ALWAYS IN HAND.
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LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

JUST RECEIVED NEW CONSIGNMENT OF
'WALK OVER' BOOTS

BLACK BROWN PATENT VARIOUS SHAPES AND SIZES.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

UNRIVALLED FOR COMFORT AND CUISINE.
THOROUGHLY UP TO DATE WITH EVERY MODERN LUXURY.
MODERATE TERMS AND NO EXTRAS.
H. HAYNES, Manager.

STAG HOTEL.

148, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
FIRST CLASS HOTEL, MOST CENTRALLY SITUATED;
WELL FURNISHED AND AIRY BEDROOMS.
Monthly Boarders accommodated on very Moderate Terms.
For Particulars, apply to
THE MANAGER. 1985

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OPTICIAN.
No. 5, PEDDER STREET
(Under Hongkong Hotel).
SIGHT TESTED FREE.
LENSES GRINDING, REPAIRS
A SPECIALITY.

MEE CHEUNG, PHOTOGRAPHER
(Ice House Lane).

DEVELOPING AND PRINTING FOR AMATEURS UNDERTAKEN.
NEW PANORAMIC VIEWS OF HONGKONG.
Taken in August.
Hongkong, September 5, 1906. 1178

CHAMPAGNES

... FROM ...
CHARLES HEIDSIECK.

PURVEYOR TO HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD.

SIEMSEN & CO.,

SOLE AGENTS FOR CHINA AND JAPAN. 450

CAMPBELL, MOORE & CO.,
LIMITED.
JUST RECEIVED NEW
POWDER,
PERFUMERIES, SOAPS,
HAIR FRAMES,
HAIR PINS,
&c., &c., &c.

CAMPBELL, MOORE & CO.,
LIMITED.
JUST RECEIVED NEW
POWDER,
PERFUMERIES, SOAPS,
HAIR FRAMES,
HAIR PINS,
&c., &c., &c.

REFORM IN CHINA.

BEING a letter addressed to Her
Majesty Queen Victoria by
G.B. M.P. And an article in reply to
CHINA: 'THE SLEEP AND
AWAKENING.'
To be had in pamphlet form at the
'CHINA MAIL' Office, 5, Wyndham Street.
Price One Dollar.

Business Notices.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LD
PORTLAND CEMENT

In Casks of 375 lbs. net, \$4.75 per Cask, ex Factory.
In Bags of 250 lbs. net, \$2.80 per Bag, ex Factory.

Shewan, Tomes & Co.,

GENERAL MANAGERS.

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ARE NOW SHOWING
A GOOD SELECTION OF SMART NEW FOULARDS
AND WASHING SILKS, VOILES, EOLIENNES, etc.

In all the New Art Shades.

NEW KID GLOVES.

7 & 9, Pedder Street (Hongkong Hotel Building).

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2, WYNDHAM STREET.

A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL under European Management. NICELY FURNISHED.
AIRY ROOMS. EVERY COMFORT FOR RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS.
EXCELLENT CUISINE. Three minutes' walk from the Ferry Wharf.
TERMS REASONABLE. Apply to THE MANAGER. 1161

VICTORIA DISPENSARY

SOLE AGENTS FOR

V. R. O. LIQUEUR WHISKY

(Square Bottles) per doz. \$15.

'NESTOR' DISINFECTING FLUID

In 1 Gallon and 5 Gallon Tins.

LEE LOONG & CO.,

FURNITURE STORE,
No. 14, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL
(Next Door to H. PRICE & Co.)

A LL Kinds of FURNITURE, CARVED (ANTON BLACKWOOD, CROOKER and OLIVER
WALL RITCHIE, etc., etc.)
AT MODERATE PRICES. 1179

THE OLIVER TYPEWRITER

VISIBILITY.
SIMPLICITY.
DURABILITY.

UNRIVALLED FOR DUPLICATING.
WRITING IN SIGHT.

[UNIVERSAL KEYBOARD.

GRANT & LESLIE,
GENERAL AGENTS
FOR HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA.
Hongkong, April 21, 1906.

GEO. CRIMBLE,
MANAGER,
14, DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

REMINGTON

TYPEWRITERS

WITH ALL REQUISITES.

SIEMSEN & CO.,

SOLE AGENTS.

Hongkong, March 2, 1906. 449

AQUARIUS Co's

STONE GINGER BEER

THE BEST GINGER BEER OBTAINABLE

SOLE AGENTS

Caldbeck, Macgregor & Co.,

WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

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THE ONLY GENUINE

'TANSAN'

WHICH BEARS THE NAME OF
J. CLIFFORD-WILKINSON
DEVELOPER OF SPECIAL
IMITATIONS
which are unpalatable and dangerous

Per Case of 48 Pints 86 50
Per Dozen Pints 81 70
Per Case of 100 Pints 88 50
Per Dozen Pints 83 70

TANSAN

GINGER ALE

Experts Testify That
TANSAN IS THE MOST
WHOLESALE AND
PALATABLE
GINGER ALE
IN THE WORLD

Per Case of 48 Pints 87 70
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Per Case of 100 Pints 88 50
Per Dozen Pints 83 70

SAMPLES ON APPLICATION

SOLE AGENTS:
H. PRICE & CO.,
Wine and Spirit Merchant,
2, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

POWELL'S

GENTLEMEN'S OUTFITTERS

28, Queen's Road
(Opposite the Clock Tower).

Elegant .

Footwear .

at
MODERATE PRICES.

STYLE, COMFORT

and
DURABILITY

GUARANTEED.

POWELL'S
HONGKONG.

The SAVOY, LIMITED.

Muslins,

Longcloth

Picot

EMBROIDERIES

EDGINGS,

INSERTIONS

and

BEADINGS.

THE SAVOY, Ltd.

QUEEN'S ROAD.

THE OVERLAND 'CHINA MAIL'

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The best paper for post-
ing to your friends
at home.

Ready in time for posting by
the
ENGLISH and FRENCH
MAILS.

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Lane, Lombard Street, E.C. CLARKE,
SON & PLATT, 85 Gracechurch St.,
E.C. S. BAKER & Co., Ltd., 30, Corn-
hill, GORDON & GORCE, 15 St. Bride
St., E.C. BATES, HENDY & Co., 21,
Cannon Street, E.C. WILLS, Ltd., 161
Cannon Street, E.C. ROBERT WATSON,
150, Fleet Street, O. MITCHELL &
Co., Snow Hill, Holborn Viaduct, E.C.
D. J. KETTER & Co., 1, Philpotts
St., E.C. BLAIR & CROWTHER,
10, 11, 12 New Bridge Street, E.C.
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D.C.L., 12 Rue Vivienne, Paris.

NEW YORK:—THE CHINESE OVERLAND
Office, 52, West 22nd Street.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports
generally:—BEAN & BLACK, San Fran-
cisco.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW
ZEALAND:—GORDON & GORCE, Mel-
bourne and Sydney.

CEYLON:—W. M. SMITH & Co., The
Apothecaries Co., Colombo.

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WALSH, Ltd., Singapore.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS:—A. S. WAT-
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BROOKLYN & Co., Shanghai, LANE,
CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY &
WALSH, Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD
& Co., and KELLY & WALSH.

S. MOUTRIE & Co., LIMITED.

HONGKONG,
SHANGHAI, TIENTSIN.

'HUMANOLA' PIANO PLAYER

With Patent Attachment for
Transposing and especially
prepared for this climate.

PRICE
\$420

RECITALS DAILY.

SOLE AGENTS:

S. MOUTRIE & Co., Ltd.

YORK BUILDINGS, CHATER ROAD.

Hongkong, August 4, 1906.



A. S. WATSON
& Co., Ltd.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

WATSON'S

Celebrated

E BLEND

VERY OLD LIQUEUR

SCOTCH . .

WHISKY.

THE FAVOURITE

SCOTCH WHISKY

THROUGHOUT THE EAST

FOR OVER

20 YEARS.

Per Case...\$15.00.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ALEXANDRA
BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, September 4, 1906.

DEATH.

SAUNDERS.—At Amoy, on the 8th inst.,
Capt. JOHN CONIST SAUNDERS, aged 77.
Deeply mourned.

MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW, Miscellaneous.

9 p.m.—A quota Feto at V.R.C.'s Enclou-
sure, Kowloon.

General Memoranda.

SATURDAY, September 15:—

9.15 p.m.—Fremont Concert on the
Volunteer Parade Ground.

Goods per Railway undelivered after 4
p.m. on this date will be landed.

MONDAY, September 17:—

Goods per Goshen undelivered after
this date subject to rent.

TUESDAY, September 18:—

10 a.m.—Auction of Sundry Naval and
Victualling Stores, at H. M. Naval
Yard.

Goods per Persia undelivered after this
date subject to rent.

THURSDAY, September 20:—

10 a.m.—Meeting of Kowloon Cricket
Club at Seamen's Institute, Kowloon.

THE CHINA MAIL.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1906.

EXCHANGE.

The high rate of exchange appeals to

different people in different ways. The

speculator who hopes to make money

out of its rise and fall is not affected in

principle, except as regards his specula-

tions, one way or another. So long as

his judgment has taught him in which

direction to gamble with advantage he

does not care whether silver is up or

down. Local tradesmen, who buy the

commodities they retail in a gold country

are of course the more pleased to see the

dollar waxing in value. They reap

enormous profits. On the other hand

the man who has contracted to give his

services either to the Government or to

a private firm for a monthly considera-

tion in gold is in a most unhappy posi-

tion unless his employers have a sense

of justice. The rise in silver has re-

duced his salary to such an extent that in

numerous instances he is receiving less

than a bare living wage. Take a case

in point. An Inspector in the Regis-

trar General's Office is paid the same

principle stipend of £180 a year. He

probably worked that out as \$150 a

month and made his arrangements to

live within that amount. With ex-

change as it is at present he is receiving

\$135. We have no hesitation in stig-

matizing this as sweating of the worst

kind. This unfortunate officer is being

robbed every month by the Government

of \$15. The Government collects

money from the citizens in dollars and

pays this unfortunate employee on a

gold basis. Then let us take the case

of the junior masters at Queen's College.

They are paid £270 to £360. Instead of

receiving \$225 to \$360 per month they

now receive about \$202 to \$270. In the

Sanitary Department we find the same

monstrous state of things. Men who,

with the dollar at par, would be receiv-

ing \$106 to \$190 per month, are now

getting about \$144 to \$171. Illustrations

similarly iniquitous could be cited in

every department of the public service.

Two facts stand out distinctly and no

amount of wriggling on the part of the

Government can explain them away. The

men paid on a sterling basis are receiving

much less than they imagined they were

contracting to receive and the Govern-

ment is pocketing the difference. At the

same time the cost of living has certainly

not decreased. Rent, servants' wages,

cost of food and domestic services

generally are, as a rule, higher than

with the dollar at par. This is a state

of things that causes people to wonder

whether there is anything peculiar to a

Government which justifies it in a course

of action which would be execrated if it

were pursued by a private office. To

the credit of most of the great honours in

the Colony it must be remarked that

they decline to bleed their employees who

were engaged at home but make an ar-

rangement whereby those employees do

not suffer in consequence of the appre-

ciation in the value of silver. It is true

that sometime in the misty past a re-

quest was sent by this Government to

the Secretary of State for the Colonies

asking him what could be done. What

has been the result? The civil servants

are still being squeezed and the local

Government makes no sign. If, a

is presumably the case, the local Govern-
ment cannot do anything in matters of
this kind without the consent of Downing
St. it shows a lamentable weakness in
our system of governing Crown Colonies.
It surely would not be a startlingly
dangerous departure to endow local
Governments with power to deal with
such matters as this. One result of the
present unhappy state of things can
easily be foretold. However, much they
may desire to carry out their duties
faithfully the civil servants, who realise
that they are labouring under a very
real grievance, will assuredly perform
those duties with less vim, and the loss
which always punishes the bad em-
ployer in the long run, will fall upon the
Government. It would not be out of
place while dealing with the question of
exchange to point out the monstrous
prices which are being charged for
commodities imported from gold coun-
tries. In a large number of instances
these prices are just as high as when
the dollar was at a discount.

CHINA'S NEW CONSTITUTION.

The Press of Canton celebrated "the

promulgation of the new constitution"

by having a holiday. That is satisfac-

tory—for the composers. We have

now, however, a statement of what

took place in Canton and apparently

the ceremonies and jubilation quite

equalled what was anticipated and

foretold. The offices of the Chamber

of Commerce were elaborately decora-

ted. Flags were in evidence on many

of the larger business places. Students

were paraded through the streets and

they met at the spots already arranged;

they marched headed by foreign music,

and when they met together sang songs

in praise of the new government and

songs that were calculated to stir and

conserve the patriotism of the people.

Ancient looking lanterns were hung

up every where, and on them were

depicted four new characters. The

characters which one sees on these lan-

terns generally refer in some way to the

offer to them. In this case, however,

the words were "May a Constitutional

Government continue for ten thousand

years." The curious thing about all

this is that the Chinese are so child-

ish—we can call these ebullitions

of feeling by no other name—and

show such delight because there

shall have been some kind of a

promise that such a Government

be given them some years hence. There

is a vast chasm between this promise

and the realization of the ideal which

they almost worship. Among the thou-

sands of Chinese there cannot be one

man in a hundred who has any clear

idea of what it is all about. We saw

a long article from a prominent Censor,

written a few days ago, warning the

Peking Government against trying to

run before they had learned to walk.

Reference had been made to the con-

dition of the Japanese and their

wonderful strides consequent on the

receiving of a Constitutional Govern-

ment. But the Censor was wise enough

to see, and bold enough to show that

the Japanese possessed something more

than mere change of Government to

explain all that has followed. Indeed

the critic pointed out further that the

rulers and people of Japan had been

preparing themselves for the new regime

for more than twenty years, and

therefore all parties were more or less

ready for it. In China the reverse is

the case, and only now because there

are many of the officials who feel

that something is lacking and they

hardly know what, they cry out "Try

Constitutional Government." In this

way and with considerable keenness

the situation is traversed, and many

pertinent criticisms are offered for

the consideration of those who are

shouting about that of which they know

so little. A further question is, How

the Eighteen Provinces can immediately

become the possessors of a Constitutional

Government after the model of the

West or of Japan? This never seems

to strike the Chinese. They have not
yet arranged a simple coinage which
shall be acceptable throughout the
empire. The dress of the North is
different

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan, Governor of the Colony, presided at a meeting of the Legislative Council which was held today. There were also present:—
His Excellency the Officer Commanding the Troops, Colonel Darlke.
Hon. Mr. T. S. BARNES (Colonial Secretary).
Hon. Sir Henry Berkeley, Kt. (Attorney General).
Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).
Hon. Capt. DABNEY.
Hon. Mr. W. C. CATHAM (Director of Public Works).
Hon. Capt. BARNES LAWRENCE (Harbour Master).
Hon. Dr. Ho Kai.
Hon. Mr. W. J. J. K.
Hon. Mr. W. J. G. G.
Hon. Mr. E. A. H. H.
Hon. Mr. E. A. H. H.
Hon. Mr. E. A. H. H.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding \$5,202,135.00 to the Public Service of the year 1907.

THE BUDGET SPEECH.

His Excellency the Governor—Gentlemen, This is the seventh year in succession that I have risen in my place in another Colony and here to place before the members of the Legislative Council the Estimates for the ensuing year, but it is the first occasion it has been my unsatisfactory duty to announce a decline in the revenue. Before going into the long array of figures which I have before me I think it will meet your wishes if I explain generally how it is proposed to meet this decline. There are three methods open to us: either to raise a further loan, to increase taxation or to reduce expenditure. I am strongly averse to raising additional loans at the present time. We have already our old loan of 1894 amounting at the present time to £300,000, after deducting sinking fund. We have also the new loan for the railway. We were, fortunately, able to raise that loan by instalments of £110,000 each year and the interest which we shall have to pay next year is the first of these instalments which is not a heavy charge but it will go on mounting up for many years until the railway commences to pay. One reason why I am particularly anxious to avoid adding to the Colony's indebtedness, and therefore to the ineffective charges that appear on these estimates, is the precarious nature of some of the items of revenue. We cannot count for certain any year on getting approximately the same revenue as we did in preceding years. I am also averse to increasing taxation. It has been pointed out to me that this Colony is very lightly taxed and I do not promise that I shall not in some future session introduce additional imposts, but at a time like the present when trade is bad it does not seem suitable to add to the burdens of the traders. Further a decline in revenue that we now have to meet is, as I will explain, in large part due to the loss to the lower tender for the Opium Farm and I do not wish to place additional taxation on non-smokers of opium because the burden is, by the force of circumstances, lightened to those who smoke opium or who profit by the use of this drug. There remains the reduction of expenditure and this is the method which I am proposing to adopt. We must cut our coat according to our cloth. It must necessarily be a simple garment but I hope when I come presently to try it on you will agree with me that it is a fairly serviceable one and one that the Colony need not be ashamed to appear in next session. (Applause.) It is somewhat of a tight fit but if we adhere to our estimates we shall remain in the same sound position at the end of 1907 as I am happy to say we will be in at the end of 1906. That position is somewhat better, according to our present anticipations, than the estimates I made when I introduced the Budget for 1906. I then anticipated that on the 31st December, 1906, we should have a balance excess of assets over liabilities of \$332,000; the additional accounts of 1905 show a balance of \$441,000, \$109,000 better than we anticipated. The estimated revenue of the Colony for the year was \$50,000 more than it will probably turn out to be. This is due to profit having been made on subsidiary coins. We counted on \$120,000 and it is the amount less coin excesses on other items that caused the deficit. In fact the extraordinary revenue we fall short by \$243,000. This is due first of all to land sales which we estimated at \$400,000 now being only estimated at \$207,000. It is also due to the Widows and Orphans Pension Fund which you will remember it was proposed to transfer to the Revenue Account, not having been transferred. The amount of the fund was \$249,000. On the other hand we transferred to General Revenue the sums which have been found due to us of the Pains Reclamation Fund amounting to \$95,000. Our ordinary revenue during the current year is now estimated at \$102,000 less than when the original estimates were drawn up. This is due to an error on the right side which was made in preparing the estimates which we passed on the possibility of it falling below the amount it stood at through 1904-5. As you are aware instead of falling the value has risen and consequently a smaller number of bonds have been required for sterling payments in England and the Colonies. On the other hand the ordinary expenditure would have been much greater had it not been necessary to send home a considerable loss the very large stores of subsidiary coins with had accumulated in the Colony and which could not be passed off, on which the Government was paying interest. The extraordinary expenditure for 1906 is now estimated at \$152,000 less than when the original estimates were prepared. So that we have \$109,000 more due to the excess of assets over liabilities on Dec. 31, 1906. We have \$293,000 less due to revenue not having come up to the amount anticipated and we have \$308,000 more owing to the expenditure having been less than estimated. The net result is that at the end of 1906 we shall be \$123,000 better off than we anticipated when the estimates for 1906 were introduced. We then expected a surplus of \$222,402 on

December 31, 1906. We now expect a surplus of \$744,073.

Passing from our anticipated position at the end of this year to the condition that we anticipated next year and dealing in the first instance with the ordinary revenue there will be a decrease of \$490,000 on the proceeds from the Opium Farm. This farm, which at present is let for \$170,000 per month, or \$2,040,000 per year, has been let for next year at \$121,000 per month or \$1,452,000 per year. That is a decrease of \$588,000 on the year but as the farm is let until March next the actual loss in 1907 will be \$490,000. I repeat this reduction not only on account of the loss of revenue but because an anticipated that with the lower price paid by the Opium Farm the cost of the drug is lessened and the consumption increased. The next item of revenue on which there will be a reduction is that of subsidiary coins. The item of \$190,000 which appeared in the 1906 estimates will disappear from those of 1907 and I shall be very much surprised if it ever comes again. I am doubtful whether this Colony was justified in sending some \$40,000 worth of coin into China which had a value less than their face value. This had the effect of inducing the Chinese to send their profits in mining silver. The Government has made representations to the Metropolitan authorities with regard to the very serious effect on trade which the very large coinage of subsidiary coins has had and will continue to have and in this connection I have received notification from the Consul General at Canton that our communications have not been without effect. I think the Chinese realise what a disastrous thing it is to lower the value of the currency and will cease issuing this vast number of subsidiary coins. Of course it is outside the question for us to do what we are trying to persuade them not to do. (Applause.) These are the two big items of reduction in revenue, the Opium Farm and subsidiary coins amounting altogether to \$610,000. Then there is a reduction in three items which indicate the stagnation of trade, \$10,000 under preliminary for Sunday cargo working, \$9000 for extra of gunpowder and licences, and \$8100 for post-licenses. There is a reduction of \$7,800 in the amount we anticipated to receive from the sale of timber. We have given effect and shall continue to give effect to the Colony's cry of two years ago "Woodman spare the tree," but I am doubtful whether we shall not have to somewhat modify that policy. I was struck the other day in a conversation that I had with the Deputy Inspector General of the Naval Hospital who informed me that he was cutting down all the trees near the Naval Hospital for he said they were not doing any good. I have found many dead trees in the colony and will be carefully into it and not get our forces filled with dead wood. This must be carefully watched as we expect very little money this year from the sale of timber. There is another item and that is the Conservancy vote, which is \$6000 less. Assessed rates, owing to new buildings and improvements, showed an increase of \$20,000; sale of stamps, an increase of \$20,000; junk licences, \$18,000 extra, owing to Bill now before Council; \$1,000 addition from Markets, due to New Western and Mong-kai markets; and the Police Territory, we expected to yield an additional \$8,000 for rent, etc. The total increase in ordinary revenue amounted to \$124,000, which deducted from total decrease of \$625,000 showed a net decrease of \$501,000. Extraordinary revenue showed a decrease of \$240,000 and land sales also decreased for another \$109,000. The total decrease was nearly \$900,000, viz., \$899,370. The total revenue for the year therefore was estimated at \$6,448,025, against \$7,347,335 for 1906.

The surplus for the year therefore was expected to be \$120,285. His Excellency went on to deal with the budget item by item and in connection with the decrease of \$16,094 in Pensions remarked that the saving was one which did not give them satisfaction, as it meant the death of some old and valued servants of the Colony. Sir William Marsh, Sir George O'Brien, Sir Deane and Mr. Bruce Shephard had all passed away during 1905-6. "We all know Mr. Bruce Shephard," said His Excellency, "and we all regret he for so short a time enjoyed the pension he so well earned." (Applause.) Referring to the expenditure incurred under the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance His Excellency said that a commission had, as Hon. Members know, been appointed to inquire into its workings and it was hoped that the result would be that the Ordinance would work more economically, satisfactorily and with less friction. The commission was working conscientiously and well. Unfortunately their investigation had shown that the law had not been administered without some corruption on the part of subordinate officers. He hoped, and he was sure that the members of the Council also hoped, that the men who had been charged would be able to clear themselves. It would be disappointing to think that any kind of Englishman had lost the honesty that used to be a characteristic. On the question of expenditure on the harbour His Excellency said that it was a great relief to the Government and to the shipping authorities to find that the depth of the harbour or the area of deep water had not decreased to any appreciable extent. His Excellency concluded his address at five minutes past four, after speaking for one hour and thirty minutes. The Colonial Treasurer seconded and the bill was read a first time.

PREPARED OPINION.

The Hon. the Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Prepared Opinion Ordinance, 1891. The object of the Bill was to make better provision for the establishment of bonded warehouses for morphine and compounds of opium, and to remove any doubt as to whether the provisions of the Principal Ordinance with regard to searches, arrests, possession, seizure and disposal and with regard to penalties and otherwise apply to morphine and compounds of opium. The Colonial Secretary seconded and the Bill was read a second time.

CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE.

The Hon. the Attorney General moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Code of Civil Procedure. The discussion was proceeding when we went to press.

AT A SUNDAY SCHOOL.

"Now, Johnnie explain the difference between 'the quick' and 'the dead.'" "How, miss, the quick? Is them as gets out of the way, motor cars, 'the dead is them as doesn't."

NOT IF AS RICH AS ROTHCHILD.

If you had all the wealth of Rothchild, if you could not buy a better medicine than Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, the most eminent physician can not prescribe a better preparation for colic and diarrhoea, both for children and adults. The uniform success of this remedy has shown it to be superior of all others. For sale by all chemists and stockholders.

CRUISE OF H.M.S. "FLORA."

SEVEN MONTHS IN STRANGE WATERS.

Seven months ago the second class cruiser "Flora" left Hongkong on one of the longest cruises that have ever been undertaken by a vessel attached to the local station. An already briefly announced in the CHINA MAIL, who returned to the harbour on Tuesday, having completed a voyage of slightly over 28,000 miles, by far in the less frequented waters of the Pacific.

The cruise was full of interest, and thanks to the courtesy extended to our representative on board the "Flora" we are able to give some particulars regarding some of the places touched at.

Leaving Hongkong in February the "Flora" went first to Japan, and from there across to North America and Mexico, and steamed slowly down the coast as far as Oahu, and from there across the Pacific to Honolulu, Pitcairn Island, Tahiti, Fiji, Easter Island, and several other of the numerous beautiful islands that nestle under the tropics in the Pacific Ocean. From Fiji the "Flora" came direct to Hongkong, a voyage of 23 days without a stop, and an extremely long run for a man-of-war.

The long cruise was almost wholly accomplished in fine weather, and while it is one of the first of the kind to be undertaken will probably be repeated at intervals. Much useful work in the way of observations, etc., was carried out and a great deal of information gathered which will prove of great use on a future occasion.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

The "Flora" visited the scene of the Panama Canal at about the time when the work going forward there loomed largest in the public eye and found that the Americans had already started to get a gigantic mole on the land. The scene where the cutting is being made was a very busy one. One of the first, and indeed one of the greatest obstacles to be encountered, were the Culebra hills a range about two hundred feet high through which the Canal has to be carried. Toward these hills the work was being pushed with great expedition by a vast array of workmen. Curiously enough the majority of these appeared to be British subjects (Jamaican Negroes), and the British Consul on the spot was having a very busy time of it.

Prior to calling in at Panama the "Flora" visited Nicaragua and Guatemala, and at the latter place a party of officers from the ship were entertained by the Government. The Presidents of the Republics also visited the ship and were entertained on board. While at Honduras the President of that Republic also came on board and courtesies were exchanged. Parties from the ship landed at different times and were always well looked after and hospitably entertained.

MODERN MOUNTAINEERING.

A good example of the ease and facility with which sight-seeing may be accomplished was obtained while in the vicinity of the famous Andes mountains. A party of about a dozen officers and sixty men went ashore for a day and during that time climbed one of the mountain peaks to the height of 11,000 feet and returned to the ship. This, of course, was accomplished by a mountain railway and the scenery on the way was of the most gorgeous and interesting description.

The "Flora" then commenced her long voyage across the Pacific stopping at various ports and finally arriving at the famous island of Pitcairn, the home of the descendants of the mutineers of the "Bounty," and Great Britain's only possession in the immense triangle enclosed between Vancouver, Fiji and the Falkland Islands.

PITCAIRN ISLAND.

For considerably upwards of a century a glamour of romance has attached to the island of Pitcairn. The very name seems now to suggest something out of the ordinary, something unconventional; a spot on the outer edge of the world. Pitcairn does not disappoint the visitor, it has not yet become the resort of globe-trotters and tourists running round with cameras and the latest guide books. It is a beautiful little island sheltering a happy and unconventional community, almost completely shut off from the outside world and living in blissful ignorance of the doings of the rest of mankind. In these strenuous days it is refreshing to catch a glimpse of an Arcadian community like this, far removed from all our modern civilization. Yet a civilized, educated and religious community, self-contained and self-supporting. There are no telephones or telegraphs in Pitcairn, no postman to bring the morning letters and the wireless telegraph; no cable connection with the great outer world. The Islanders are not agitated by the daily tidings of war or catastrophe. The papers they read are few in number and months old, containing many items that must be as unintelligible as Greek; the majority of them have never seen a railway train or an automobile and they know nothing of the way life is spent in our big cities. They are a people apart, their horizon is boundless sea and sky. In short Pitcairn is a tiny dot of about five miles in circumference in the ocean and an ideal place to lead the simple life undisturbed by outside influences.

Such the officers of the "Flora" found it and their account is that of the doings of a happy and contented people who make the stranger very welcome but have no desire to leave their island home for the place whence he came. Formerly it had been for many years customary for a British man-of-war to visit Pitcairn once a year, but owing to passing events this had not been done for the last few years and when the "Flora" arrived at the island in company with a vessel from the Australian station one of His Majesty's ships had not been seen there for about three years. Little wonder then that the

Islanders made their visitors welcome. Pitcairn was found to be in a prosperous condition and the islanders well satisfied with their lot.

They readily told the story of their birth and of the various struggles and trials through which the little community has passed. The oldest resident of the island is a grandson of Fletcher Christian and is 87 years of age. Of the names that figured in the early history of the island those of Christian, Young and McCoy still exist, the Young family being one of the principal in the island.

The Islanders have European features and do not show the signs of decadence that would be expected from so many years of intermarriage. There are traces of "Kanaka" blood in most of the countenances but others are thoroughly Caucasian. It is a matter of history that the "Bounty" reached Pitcairn Island in January, 1790, but its existence was known long before that date. Fletcher Christian and eight of his shipmates were all who remained of the "Bounty's" original crew and they took with them from Tahiti six native men, ten women and a girl of fifteen as wives and servants. Christian selected Pitcairn owing to having seen an account of the discovery of a lone island in the Pacific Ocean, by Captain Carteret, in the year 1767. He decided upon it as a spot where they were likely to escape discovery. The island was named Pitcairn after the young man who had described it, a son of Major Pitcairn who fell in the Battle of Dunkirk Hill. Subsequently the natives rose against the white man and murdered Fletcher Christian, John Mills, Isaac Martin, William Brown and John Williams, so that four only of the mutineers, William McCoy, Matthew Quintall, John Adams and Edward Young were left. At this time almost every vice existed amongst the community and it was only after some years, when all the mutineers had passed away, except John Adams, that peace was restored. Adams became very religious and under his teaching the whole of the Islanders became united as one family. Such was the condition of Pitcairn when, in 1838, Captain Mayhew Folger, of the American ship "Topaz," chanced to call there. He was greatly surprised to be addressed in good English, as also have mariners of all nations been since that date. English is used almost exclusively in the island, and the costume worn is the ordinary civilized pattern. The mutineers' descendants in later years received many kindnesses from captains of British men-of-war and at the hands of different mariners.

SPORTING.

Water Polo.

Yesterday afternoon, despite the rain, the water polo match between the 87th Company, R.G.A., and "A" team, V.R.C. took place at Kowloon, resulting in a win for the V.R.C. team by six goals to nil. The game was a close one despite the disparity in the score. The soldiers marked their opponents well, but very smart shooting at goal by Pereira, Witcheil, and Chunyut neutralised their efforts. Pereira scored two goals, Witcheil three and Chunyut one. The game was a very fast one and the passing of the V.R.C. team was much better than was generally expected. Though Witcheil was "fed" by Humphreys whenever he got the ball, Ribeiro and Pereira often got an opening and passed well to the other members of the team. Carroll did not play as well as anticipated, and his opponent on one occasion got clean away, but his shot at goal was a very weak one and Laimbert saved easily. Ward had a couple of long shots at goal, but the V.R.C. goalkeeper was successful in blocking them both, though one almost beat him.

The final match of the competition, between the two V.R.C. teams will take on Saturday the 22nd. This match is certain to provide a good game.

Cricket.

THE KOWLOON CLUB.

The following is the report of the Kowloon Cricket Club:— In circulating our annual report it has been thought desirable to explain in some detail the measure of success which has attended the establishment of the Club. We would first thank His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan and the Government for their munificence in allying to the Club the excellent piece of ground in King's Park, which generosity enables us to present, notwithstanding the very heavy expenses the Club has necessarily had to incur, a satisfactory report and balanced sheet. For a Club in its infancy the past season has been very successful, due to the keen interest taken in its welfare by the members. Great credit is due to Dr. Swan and members of the 1st XI, for winning the Hongkong Cricket League competition, obtaining 37 points out of a possible 42. Walter Dixon secured the prizes given by Messrs. T. Chee and J. D. Logan for batting and bowling in league matches, his average for batting being 37, and bowling 5.6. W. G. Martin obtained the prize given by Mr. Goldring for fielding. In the 2nd XI, matches W. E. Curwen won the prize given by Dr. Swan for the best average, and J. Sibbit the prize for the highest score, given by Mr. Goyne-Stevens. A Tennis Tournament was started after the cricket season finished, but owing to the wet weather it is not yet completed. The cricket pitch, which occupies the centre portion of the ground, has been returned, and it is hoped will be in a fit condition for use early in October. Mr. Goyne-Stevens, the Honorary Secretary, resigned in January owing to his going on leave, and H. E. Goldsmith was elected to act in his stead till the annual meeting. It was hoped to have had the pavilion erected by the commencement of this season, but the tenders for the work being much higher than the estimated cost it was decided to reserve the question for the annual meeting. During the year 30 new members have been enrolled, thus strengthening our membership to 152, including 9 honorary members. We think the members may congratulate themselves on the very large measure of success which has attended the Club this year, and that the promise for the future is equally bright. We desire, however, to point out that this is largely dependent on the financial support received, and it is therefore particularly hoped that the members will continue their subscriptions and that all new entrants to the Club will assist both actively and financially. Thanks are due to the Sub-Committees for their assistance during the past season, also to Messrs. Lapsley and Harrop for auditing the accounts.

MYSTERIES OF EASTER ISLAND.

Another very interesting, little known spot, visited by the "Flora" was Easter Island, so named from the fact of its being discovered by the Dutch Admiral Roggeveen on Easter Sunday, 1721. Easter Island is famous as being the home of the last of a people, whose origin cannot be traced, but who are supposed to be of Polynesian descent. It is also famous for its huge statues, monuments, and mysterious carvings and hieroglyphs which must have been done long ago as the Stone Age. Some of these monuments are as much as sixty feet in height and it is an unexplained mystery how they were placed in position without the aid of mechanical contrivances. Many of these are in an unfinished state and the stone tools used are still to be found; facts which point to the conclusion that the work was suddenly and hastily abandoned by the ancient sculptors. The work is of much the same class as that found in the Andes, Bolivia and in Peru. A theory accepted by many scientists is that Easter Island once formed part of a large tract of land which centuries ago disappeared under the sea. The Islanders themselves have a tradition that their ancestors came to the island many hundreds of years ago in two canoes but from whom they have not the least idea. Strangely a similar tradition is also shared by the Misoris of New Zealand and the Easter Islanders speak a language very similar to that of the former. Anthropological facts are held to point to the people having probably come from somewhere in the South American continent.

The "Flora's" officers roamed amongst interesting scenes, and amongst the islanders met a native woman who is claimed

to have reached the extraordinary age of 138 years. There are no means of proving the date of her birth but the old lady herself tells stories that point very strongly to the truth of the claim. She claims to have known Captain Cook and to remember his landing at the island when his vessels ran short of water. She says that she was a little girl at the time and is able to tell stories of incidents that are related almost fact for fact in Captain Cook's Journal.

At Tahiti the officers were entertained at official banquets and photos of them dining in state crowned with flowers were shown to our representative. In the way of photographs the "Flora's" trip has resulted in a unique and immensely interesting collection being obtained. Those of the Tahitian girls who danced for the officers' entertainment after the banquets show them to be of comely appearance. The photos obtained at Pitcairn are immensely interesting and include one of the tombstone of John Adams. On the tombstone in the photograph can be plainly read the simple inscription "Sacred to the Memory of John Adams, who died March 29th, 1820, in Hope."

Another excellent photograph shows the birth register of the Pitcairn Islanders which was compiled after the little community had returned from Norfolk Island. In conclusion we take the opportunity of congratulating the commander and officers of the "Flora" on her very successful cruise and the good results accomplished, and wish them an enjoyable stay in Hongkong during the period of comparative inactivity which they have so well earned.

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THE YUNNAN FAMINE.

A long and pathetic telegram and letter were sent by the Viceroy of Yunnan and Kweichow, to the Viceroy of the Two Kwang, asking for assistance in order to save the lives of the people of the former province from death. It appears from the Viceroy's communication, that there was little or no rain throughout the province till late in the summer and when it did come it was altogether too late to think of planting rice for the year. Indeed it was possible only to hope that a little sweet potato and tma may be grown. This was all the more distressing because it followed a year, when floods prevailed, and last year was a very unsuccessful one on account of the floods. Two years following each other of this nature are apparently more than the people can fight out, as in the poorer regions they mostly live from hand to mouth. The picture of parents selling their children, of people dying by the roadside, of hundreds waiting for bread is very painful, and though the wording is probably modelled after ancient books and therefore figurative, there is apparently no doubt but that the condition of affairs is very threatening, and hence the appeal.

The Yunnan Viceroy, Ting Chan Tok, points out that the Central Government has sent him \$10,000, but this is as the small drop in a bucket compared with the needs. Those who have money must pay about three times the market value for the rice they get, whilst others can get none whatsoever, and must be content with any rougher food that fortune places in their way. Messengers have been sent into Annam, to Szechuen, and into Kweichow in order to purchase rice, but, as the appeal truly says, the way is long and the roads are mountainous, and no end of time and money are needed before there can be any hope of relief.

It appears from these remarks that the Viceroy has begun to see the advantages of railways. The merchants of the province and others have done what they are able and now there is this appeal to Viceroy Shun, and the hope is expressed that he will take the initiative and so lead the benevolent of the Kwangtung Province to give of their plenty to relieve the distress of those who are in such dire straits. There is no indication as to the reception which this appeal met with, the facts simply have been sent to the Viceroy and from the statement one can see generally that things are in a bad way. There is little hope of relief until the end of next summer when the harvest will be ripe.

EXTRAORDINARY ALLEGATION BY THE "TIMES." Government Jobbery. LONDON, Sept. 6. The writer of the money article in the Times says that well informed City opinion is surprised at the absence of protest against the action of the Government, in rolling quishing thirty millions from the Treasury for the new loan of four millions. He suggests that it is a political bargain, the Government saying to the mining magnates "you make no fuss about the Chinese, and we offer you the thirty millions."

THE TOKYO TROUBLE.

New Scale of Fares.

Writing on Sept. 2 the Japan Chronicle says:— Public feeling against the increase of the fares on the Tokyo electric-cars appears to be increasing. An association has been formed to oppose the increase, and has called a public indoor meeting for the 6th instant. The object of the association is to secure a remission of the fares, and the Government and the tram company will be urged to reconsider their decision. If the views of the public, as expressed by this meeting, are ignored, and the proposed increase takes effect, then the association will convene a mass meeting of protest in Hibiya Park on the 11th. (As reported by cable this meeting was held.—ED., C.M.)

INFANT MORTALITY.

THE attention of the Town Council at Johannesburg, Transvaal, was last year directed to the fact that out of eighty-four infants, who died in December, forty-four of them had died of dysentery. An investigation with a view of tracing the source of this disease was instituted. Under four best of city doctors, attacks of dysentery are very prevalent among children in warm weather, but in a large majority of cases the lives of the little ones can be saved by the use of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. This remedy always brings prompt relief, and has never been known to fail. For sale by all chemists and stockholders.

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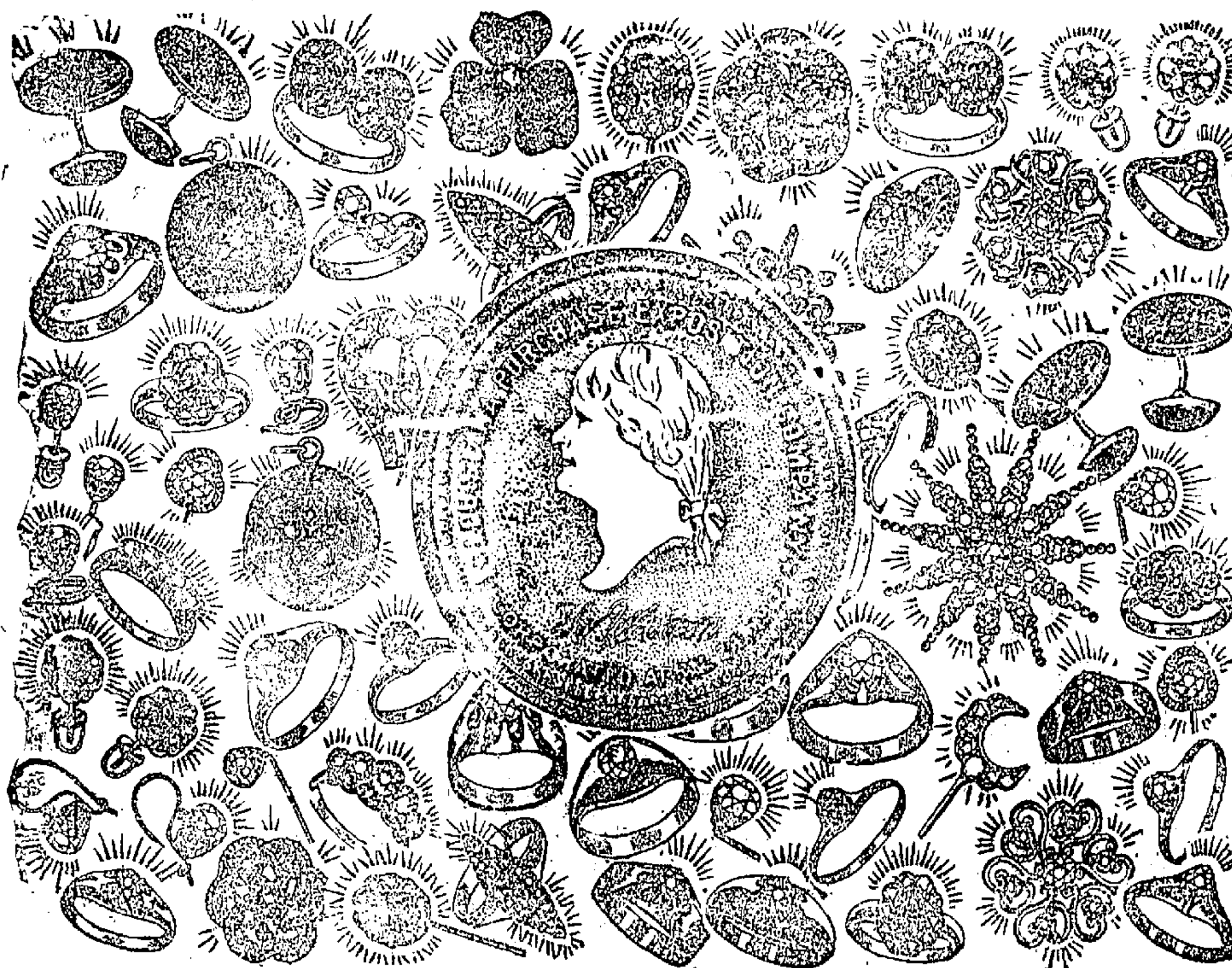
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